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#9/Prior-A-1
2126
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: V. Nguyen
TOSHIO SAKURAI)
: Group Art Unit: 2126
Application No.: 09/715,109)
:
Filed: November 20, 2000)
:
For: PRINTER AND CONTROL)
METHOD THEREFOR : April 15, 2004

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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to EP 0 521 673, which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and of which a copy is enclosed.

This document was first cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated January 26, 2004, is enclosed.

In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that EP 0 521 673 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Also cited in the European Search Report was U.S. Patent No. 5,365,311, which was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed November 20, 2000. Accordingly, U.S. Patent No. 5,365,311 is not being cited in this Information Disclosure Statement.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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